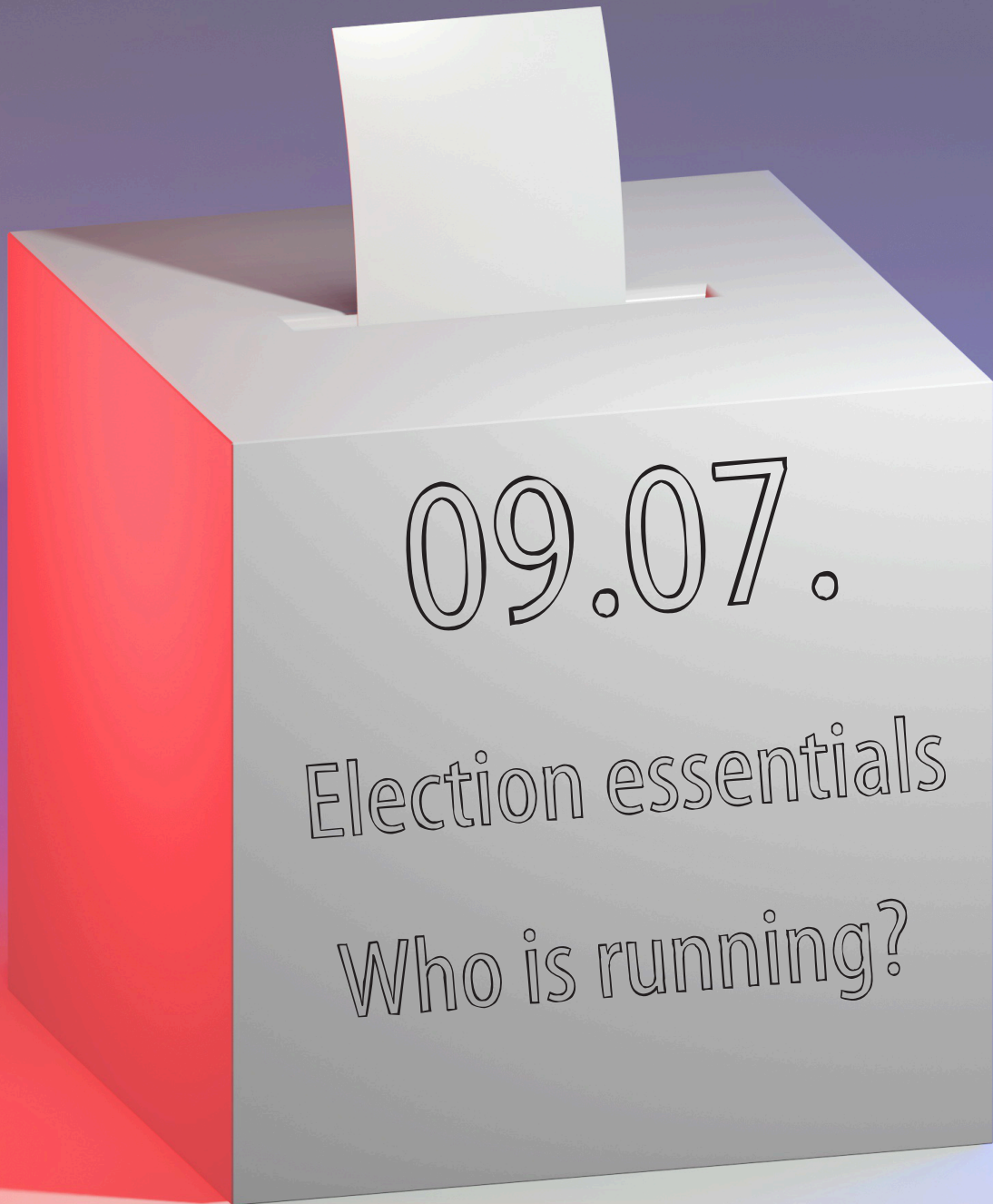




reisswolf

3/24



UNIVERSITY ELECTIONS SPECIAL

TUM.Additive. Powder Bed Fusion

Young, Unpolitical, Gen Z...?

EDITORIAL

As the summer semester is now in full swing, bringing with it longer days and sunnier weather, we are excited to present you the latest edition of **Reisswolf: Packed** with intriguing articles and insights to help you unwind during your study breaks. In this issue, we delve into the many facets of student life and campus activities. This is our first Editorial in English as we aim to offer more content for our growing international community.



Our „Fachschaft Kompakt“ provides a concise overview of recent developments within the student council, ensuring you stay informed about the latest initiatives and decisions that impact our community.

For those looking to enhance their language skills, Victoria's article „Angebote des Sprachenzentrums“ highlights the various programs and courses available through the TUM Language Center. Whether you're a beginner or looking to refine your proficiency, there's something for everyone.

In the „HOPO-News“ section, Paul covers the latest developments in uni-

versity politics, offering a deep dive into the key issues and changes affecting our institution. Additionally, our „University Elections Special“ provides an in-depth look at the upcoming elections, introducing the candidates and explaining the committees to be elected.

The „Messen und Exkursionen“ section includes a preview for the upcoming ILA article in our next issue, compiled by Marcus and Emma, promising exciting insights into the flight and aerospace industry. Moreover, this section features insights about IKOM, the renowned career fair, which will take place in Garching from 24th until the 27th of June.

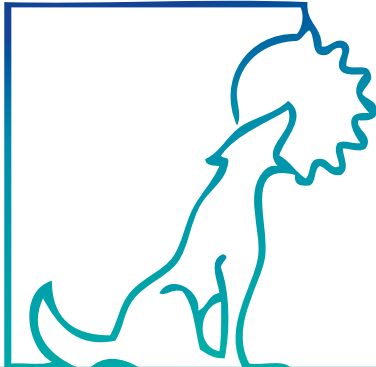
Our „Nachgefragt“ section includes an interview by Kaavya with David Wenzler and his innovative work being done at iwb in the TUM.Additive initiative.

Finally, in the „Nachgedacht“ section, Emma examined the perspectives of Generation Z in „Young, Unpolitical, Gen Z?“ This article challenges common stereotypes and sheds light on the political engagement and views of our generation.

We hope you enjoy this issue and wish you a continued successful semester,

Felix & Emma
reisswolf@fsmb-tum.de

INHALT



IMPRESSUM

21.06.2024

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TITELBLATT

Thor_Deichmann

AUFLAGE

400

**REDAKTIONSSCHLUSS FÜR DIE NÄCHSTE
AUSGABE: 30.6.2024**

DRUCK

Studiendruck der Fachschaft Maschinenbau e.V.

Mit Namen gekennzeichnete Artikel geben nicht die Meinung der Redaktion, sondern die der Verfasserin wieder. Die Redaktion behält sich vor, gegebenenfalls Kürzungen an den Beiträgen vorzunehmen.

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FACHSCHAFT KOMPAKT

Neues aus der FSMB



Fachschaft
Maschinenbau

Instagram:
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Website:
www.fsmb.de

Erstsemesterteam

Auch wenn es bis zum nächsten Wintersemester noch etwas dauert, beginnt für uns jetzt schon die Planung für die nächsten Semester-einführungstage (SET). Wenn ihr irgendwelche Vorschläge habt, was man mal anders machen könnte, oder irgendwas bei euch nicht so optimal lief, gebt uns gerne unter (erstsemester@fsmb-tum.de) Bescheid.

Euer Erstsemesterteam

Leitung

Liebe Kommiliton*innen,

Das Semester ist schon fast vorbei und die Prüfungszeit nähert sich. Bitte nehmt an den kommenden Lehrveranstaltungs-Evaluierungen teil, um den Dozierenden Feedback zu geben und die Lehre zu verbessern. Ihr könnt uns natürlich ebenfalls jederzeit unter dem Semester Feedback geben. Schreibt uns dazu einfach eine E-Mail oder benutzt unseren neuen Feedback-Briefkasten an der Fachschaftstür! Falls ihr Probleme gemeinsam diskutieren wollt, dann bietet sich dazu die Fachschaftssitzung montags um 17:30 Uhr oder das Kaffeekränzchen donnerstags um 14:00 Uhr an.

Wir hoffen, dass wir euch gemeinsam mit den anderen Fachschaften ein wundervolles Sommersemester 2024 bereiten konnten und wünschen euch viel Erfolg bei den Prüfungen.

Eure Fachschaftsleitung
Alex und Henri

Team für internationale Studierende

With the season now finally set for summer (aside from a few rainy episodes), our Buddy-Program is well on its way. Many new connections were made and fun memories were shared. In June, we have more awesome events for you, including a potluck and an excursion to Neuschwanstein, just to name two. If you want to contribute, we are always open to new ideas and your suggestions. Feel free to e-mail us with any input or other concerns. :) international@fsmb-tum.de

If you feel like this could be something for you - towards the Wintersemester we will be looking for new Buddies that are open to helping incoming internationals settle in during their exchange at TUM.

Your Team for international Students

Team für Information und PR

Das Info und PR Team ist im vollen Schwung dieses Semester. Momentan läuft bei uns ein Stickerwettbewerb bei dem alle Studis mitmachen können. Sendet uns eure besten Sticker Ideen (Link auf Instagram [@fsmb_tum](https://www.instagram.com/fsmb_tum)) und vielleicht wählen wir euch als einer der drei Gewinner*innen. Wenn ihr eine der Glücklichen seid, wird euer Sticker von uns massig gedruckt und verteilt. Also mitmachen lohnt sich. Grundsätzlich ist es auch unsere Aufgabe, euch Studis über die neusten Infos, Events, Jobs und alles was euch noch so interessieren könnte, zu informieren. Dafür halten wir die Plakatwände in der Magistrale, die Stellenausschreibungen sowie die anderen Blackboards neben der Fachschaft aktuell.

Wie immer beantworten wir fleißig jegliche Fragen, die ihr habt über unsere E-Mail Adresse info@fsmb-tum.de.

Bleibt klebrig und GaLiGrü

Miu und Julia

Team für Hochschulpolitik

Als Update zur letzten Ausgabe des Reisswolfs können wir euch mitteilen, dass wir unser Gespräch mit Prof. Rixen über die TM1 Klausur hatten. Wir haben ihm Vorschläge unterbreitet, die positiv aufgenommen wurden. Manche Punkte werden sicher umgesetzt werden, bei anderen sind wir noch im Dialog wie der Lehrstuhl den Spagat schaffen kann, dass der Anspruch nicht zu sehr sinkt, aber auch nicht die Hälfte durchfällt. Wir setzen uns weiter für euch ein und hoffen, dass wir Verbesserung bewirken konnten/können.

Ansonsten läuft unser Semester gerade auf Hochtouren, wir sitzen an der Studienzuschkommission, in der wir Studis einen Vorschlag für die Verteilung von Geldern an die Lehrstühle ausarbeiten. Wir haben euer Prüfungsfeedback (Dan-



ke für die zahlreiche Teilnahme) in die Prüfungsausschüsse mitgenommen und aktuell finden die Qualitätszirkel für allgemeine Studiengangsprobleme statt. Was wir dadurch bewirken können wird erst die Zeit zeigen, doch wir hoffen euch bald von Erfolgen berichten zu können.

Euer Team für Hochschulpolitik

Veranstaltungsteam

Wir freuen uns, verkünden zu dürfen, dass der Sommerball 2024 wieder ein voller Erfolg war! Die ganze Fachschaft Maschinenbau hat mit angepackt, um die Höfe 1 und 2 für eine Nacht in einen Ballsaal zu verwandeln, komplett mit Discokugel, Lichtshow, DJ, Bar und Kanapees. 300 Gäste schwungen ihre Tanzbeine und nahmen eine wohlverdiente Auszeit vom Studienalltag. Auch die Hilfe von externen Studierenden soll hier hervorgehoben werden, vielen Dank allen Helferinnen und Helfern! Wie immer waren Eintritt und Getränkepreise so gesetzt, dass sich die Veranstaltung selber trägt, aber jeder Studierende die Möglichkeit hat, zu kommen. Der geringe Überschuss fließt dann wieder in andere Fachschaftsprojekte die euch als Studis zugutekommen wie die kommende Lern-Nacht am 4. Juli, auf der für Technische Mechanik und Höhere Mathematik gebüffelt wird, oder den Tanzabend am 9. Juli, wo Studierende ihre Tanzkenntnisse in einem kostenlosen Tanzkurs aufpolieren können. Außerdem stehen ein paar Turniere an, nämlich das Schafkopturnier am 27.6. und unser Pokerturnier am 8.7., jeweils in der CampusCneipe C2. Für Neuigkeiten zu unseren Events schaut gerne auf events.fsmb.de/events/ vorbei.

Wenn ihr Feedback zu unseren Veranstaltungen habt, schreibt uns gerne eine Mail unter veranstaltungen@fsmb-tum.de oder lasst einen Zettel im Feedback-Briefkasten an der Fachschaftstür. Wir freuen uns, unsere Events genau auf eure Wünsche zuzuschneiden, statt nur zu raten was genau ihr euch wünscht.

Habt alle einen schönen Sommer!

Tobias (Ragnar)

Skriptenteam

Eure Skriptenfamily immer noch da, um euch im Studium zu unterstützen!

Wer das Skriptenteam nicht kennt, muss nur wissen, dass wir alle Form von Papiertexten drucken und studiumsrelevante Unterlagen verkaufen: Plakate, Abschlussarbeiten und natürlich Skripten sowie den Reisswolf in deiner Hand! In unserer Druckerei im Hof 2 Untergeschoss des MW-Gebäudes haben wir alles Nötige, um alle Papiere für unsere Studis zu drucken. Etwas näher

an der Sonne im Hof 0 befindet sich unser Skriptenverkaufsfenster, wo ihr an den folgenden wöchentlichen Verkaufsterminen eure Skripte kaufen könnt:

- Montag 11:00 bis 12:00
- Mittwoch 10:00 bis 11:00
- Donnerstag 10:45 bis 11:30

Falls ihr euch schon gewundert habt, wann die Prüfungssammlungen gedruckt werden, können wir euch eine Antwort geben: Am 1. Juli wird es einen Extended-Prüfungssammlungsverkauf geben, bei dem ihr erstmals die Gelegenheit habt, gedruckte Altklausuren zu kaufen. Weitere Details werden noch über unsere Homepage (fsmb.de/skriptenverkauf) und unseren Newsletter mitgeteilt.

Da wir während der Prüfungsphase keine Skripte drucken, empfehlen wir, eure gewünschte Skripte bis zum 6. Juli zu bestellen. Dafür müsst ihr nur unserer Webpage auf fsmb.de/skriptenverkauf besuchen. Außerdem drucken wir alle eure Abschlussarbeiten zu Studi-Preisen. Wir drucken auch Flyer, Aushänge und Visitenkarten für Studierende und Lehrstühlen. Ihr könnt uns unter druckvorlagen@fsmb-tum.de kontaktieren. Außerdem hast du ab sofort die Möglichkeit, den Preis für jegliche Druckaufträge über preisrechner.druckerei.fsmb.de zu berechnen. Der Preis ist eine Schätzung und unverbindlich.

Wenn auch ihr unsere essenzielle Dienste mitgestalten möchtet, könnt ihr euch gerne bei uns in der Fachschaft melden!

Eure Skriptenfamily

Nachhaltigkeit

Wir haben gemeinsam mit dem Umweltreferat der Studentischen Vertretung mehrere Events im neu eröffneten partizipativen „WeTüpferl“-Raum in der MI-Magistrale veranstaltet. Am 6. Juni haben wir eine Mini-Ausstellung der studentischen Nachhaltigkeitsprojekte rund um das Umweltreferat organisiert und dabei Meinungen und Ideen von Studis zur Campusgestaltung und zu Nachhaltigkeitsthemen in Lehre und an der Mensa eingeholt.

Beim TUM Sustainability Day am 12. Juni waren wir auch sehr präsent, haben die Arbeit der Fachschaft vorgestellt und über nachhaltige Ernährung informiert. Viele haben unseren Stand besucht.

Momentan planen wir die nächsten Veranstaltungen im WeTüpferl. Außerdem ist eine Treibhausgasbilanz von Fachschaftsveranstaltungen in Planung, um unsere eigenen Nachhaltigkeitspotentiale besser einschätzen zu können.

Klimafreundliche Grüße!



ANGEBOTE DES SPRACHENZENTRUMS



Victoria Gurrero Madrid
Lektorin für Spanisch
Kordinatorin für
TUMtandem

Instagram

@tum.sprachenzentrum

Website

www.sprachenzentrum.tum.de

Angebot Sprachenzentrum & Blockkurse im Semesterferien

Das TUM Sprachenzentrum bietet nicht nur Kurse in 17 Sprachen an, sondern auch Workshops zur interkulturellen Kommunikation, Coaching-Programme, Schreibberatung in Deutsch und Englisch, Tandemprogramme und vieles mehr. Auf unserer Website veröffentlichen wir u.a. Infos zu aktuellen Angeboten, Terminen und Veranstaltungshinweise. Außerdem könnt ihr dem TUM Sprachenzentrum auch auf Instagram folgen: @tum.sprachenzentrum

Das Programm für die semesterbegleitenden Sprachkurse wird in der Regel spätestens einen Monat vor Vorlesungsbeginn in TUMonline veröffentlicht. Das Programm für unsere Blockkurse im Frühjahr/Herbst findet man immer gegen Ende der Vorlesungszeit in TUMonline (für Blockkurs im Frühjahr spätestens im Januar, für Blockkurse im Herbst spätestens im Juli).

TUMtandem

Lernen im Tandem ist eine Sprachlernmethode, die es zwei Personen ermöglicht, die Sprache des Gegenübers auf autonome und flexible Weise zu erlernen. Eine individuelle Bestimmung der Lernziele, Praxisbezogenheit durch reale Gesprächs- und Schreibsituationen sowie interkultureller Austausch sind nur Beispiele für die Vielzahl an Vorteilen, die diese Sprachlernmethode bietet.



Du hast bereits erste Grundkenntnisse der Fremdsprache, die du lernen möchtest? Bei TUMtandem finden wir innerhalb der TUM eine:n Tandem-Partner:in für dich!

Filmreihe

Jedes Semester laden wir alle TUM Mitglieder im Rahmen unserer Filmreihe DIVERSITY zu verschiedenen Terminen ins Kino ein: In Kooperation mit der HFF München zeigt das TUM Sprachenzentrum internationale Filme im HFF Kino (Bernd-Eichinger-Platz 1, 80333 München). Anschließend gibt es die Möglichkeit zur Diskussion. Der Eintritt ist frei, keine Anmeldung notwendig! Termine im Sommersemester 2024:

- ◆ (vergangen): Filmabend mit Schauspielerin Sunnyi Melles
- ◆ (vergangen): Oppenheimer (OV, ohne Untertitel)
- ◆ Before Sunrise (OmdU): 11.07.2024, 19:00

Für mehr Informationen zur Filmreihe DIVERSITY scanne den QR-Code.



Fotos

Im WiSe 2023/2024 haben wir unsere Studierenden gebeten, uns Vorschläge für neue Titelfotos unserer Sprachseiten zu senden. Was uns besonders interessierte, waren Fotos, die nicht nur die Schönheit eines Ortes zeigten, sondern auch eine persönliche Verbindung der Studierenden zur Sprache und zum Land reflektierten.

Besonders gefallen haben uns diese beiden Bilder und Geschichten:



Seite der deutschen Sprache. Bild: Zoreslava Marchuk (M.A. Architektur / TUM)

„Das Foto wurde im Herbst 2023 aufgenommen und zeigt die Zugspitze, den höchsten Berg Deutschlands, sowie eines der schönsten Naturwunder des Landes – den Eibsee. Die Zugspitze ist, meiner Meinung nach, eines der wichtigsten inoffiziellen Symbole Deutschlands, das jeder kennenlernt, der anfängt, die deutsche Sprache und Kultur zu lernen. Es ist auch ein sehr wichtiger Ort für Bayern. Selbst bei schönem Wetter ist es möglich, den Berg von der Terrasse am Hauptgelände der TUM zu sehen.“



Seite der norwegischen Sprache. Bild: Philipp Peron (M.Sc. Elektrotechnik und Informationstechnik / TUM)

„Ein wichtiger Teil der norwegischen Kultur sind die Holzhütten mitten in der Natur. Während meines Auslandssemesters habe ich mit meinen neu gefundenen norwegischen Freunden viel Zeit in diesen Hütten verbracht. Von dort haben wir dann Wanderungen gemacht, abends Karten gespielt und gemeinsam zu Gitarrenmusik am Ofen auf Englisch und Norwegisch gesungen. Die Hütte, auf der das Foto entstanden ist, hat uns besonders gut gefallen wegen dem genialen Blick auf den See.“



Erfahrungsberichte



Hi, ich heiße Leonie und studiere Mechatronics, Robotics and Biomechanical Engineering an der TUM. Das Sommersemester 2022 habe ich mit dem Erasmus-Programm in Vigo, eine Stadt in der spanischen Region Galizien, verbracht. Um mein Schulspanisch im Vorhinein aufzufrischen, belegte ich Spanisch-Kurse am Sprachenzentrum und nahm am TUMtandem-Programm teil. Mir lag es sehr am Herzen, in meinem Auslandssemester die Sprache meines Gastlandes zu lernen, um die Kultur näher zu erleben und besser Kontakte knüpfen zu können. Galizien ist eine Region, die zu Unrecht nicht sehr bekannt ist. Dort endet der Jakobsweg, es gibt atemberaubende Landschaften, top Surfspots, tollen Wein und ausgelassene Feste. Ich hatte eine wunderschöne Zeit dort und kann Vigo als Ort für ein Auslandssemester wärmstens empfehlen.

Die verschiedenen Angebote des Sprachenzentrums und die nette Atmosphäre haben mir in meiner Vorbereitung für Vigo so gut gefallen, dass ich seitdem (auch nach meinem Auslandssemester) oft an Veranstaltungen dort teilnehme. Ich melde mich regelmäßig bei TUMtandem an, schaue bei Tandem-Treffen vorbei und besuche weiterhin Sprachkurse. Ich treffe dort immer spannende Leute und lerne jedes Mal etwas Neues dazu.

Seit ich an der Uni Spanisch lerne, habe ich mich sehr in die Sprache verliebt und ich habe Lust, weiter in die spanischsprachige Welt einzutauchen. Aus diesem Grund werde ich 2024 ein zweites Auslandssemester in Buenos Aires verbringen. Ich freue mich schon riesig, das Land zu erkunden, eine neue Kultur kennenzulernen und meine Spanischkenntnisse auszubauen!

¡Hola! Ich bin Franziskus und studiere den „Entwicklung, Produktion und Management im Maschinenbau“ Master. In meinem dritten Mastersemester habe ich mit TUMexchange ein Auslandssemester in Kolumbien gemacht. Um an einer kolumbianischen Universität studieren zu können, sind gute Spanischkenntnisse erforderlich – doch diese hatte ich anfangs nicht. Dank des Sprachenzentrums konnte ich jedoch mein Spanisch deutlich verbessern. Mit vier semesterbegleitenden Kursen steigerte ich meine minimalen Grundkenntnisse auf das notwendige B1-Niveau, noch bevor mein Auslandssemester begann. Die Partneruni akzeptiert dabei in der Regel die von der TU ausgestellten Zertifikate als Sprachnachweis, was sehr angenehm ist, denn so muss man nicht zusätzlich einen externen Sprachnachweis abschließen.



Das Auslandssemester war eine unbeschreiblich bereichernde Erfahrung, an die ich mich mein Leben lang erinnern werde. Ich habe in Medellín studiert, eine Stadt, die geprägt ist durch ihren „ewigen Frühling“, ausgesprochen reichhaltiger Natur mitten in der Metropole, herzlichen Leuten mit einer riesigen Lebensfreude, wunderschöne Landschaften und nicht zuletzt pulsierende Feiern. Nach Ende des Semesters hatte ich noch die Möglichkeit alle restlichen Ecken des Landes zu besuchen. Dabei ist es schwierig sich nicht in die kulturelle Vielfalt, die extreme Biodiversität und vor allem die Leute zu verlieben.

Danke an die TUM und das Sprachenzentrum für diese großartige Möglichkeit!



Hey! Mein Name ist Johannes und ich helfe inzwischen seit anderthalb Jahren als studentische Hilfskraft beim Sprachenzentrum der TUM aus. In dieser Zeit hier habe ich nicht nur eine gute Arbeitsstelle mit angenehmer Atmosphäre, sondern auch einen ganz neuen Freundeskreis gefunden.

Die Arbeit im Sprachenzentrum ist sehr cool! Die Mitarbeiter des Sprachenzentrums passen sehr aufeinander auf, sodass ich immer Unterstützung bekomme, wenn ich bei einer Aufgabe nicht weiterkomme.

Ich arbeite hauptsächlich bei der Organisation des TUMtandem mit, wobei es mir möglich ist mit flexiblen Arbeitszeiten auch von zu Hause aus zu arbeiten, sodass es der perfekte Nebenjob als Student ist. Zudem macht die Arbeit auch sehr Spaß! Einmal im Semester organisieren wir beispielsweise ein Tandem-Treffen, wo wir einige Kennenlern- und Sprachspiele spielen und bei welchen ich selbst auch viele neue Kommilitonen kennengelernt habe, die jetzt enge Freunde von mir geworden sind. Auch die Mitarbeiter sind inzwischen mehr Freunde als Arbeitskollegen. Oftmals gehen wir zusammen zur Mensa, absolvieren den Campuslauf als Team oder treffen uns auch außerhalb der Arbeit. Das Verhältnis am Sprachenzentrum ist sehr herzlich und ich finde mich tatsächlich öfters dort wieder als ich eigentlich von der Arbeit aus müsste.

Allem in allem kann ich die Arbeit dort nur sehr empfehlen! Für mich gibt es keine Arbeitsstelle, die einem als Student so sehr entgegenkommt. ☀



HOPO-NEWS

The Latest in University Politics



Paul
Bachmann

Invitation: Documentation on the Nazi era at TUM

The opening of the new memorial site for persecuted university members of TUM (then THM) during the period of German fascism will take place **on July 9 at 4 pm in the Carl von Linde lecture hall** (main campus). Historians, members of the commission for the reappraisal of TUM's nazi history and President Hofmann will speak at the event. After the opening, the student cinema tufilm will show „**The White Rose**“, which is about the Munich resistance group of the same name against the fascist Hitler regime, free of charge at 20:00. All members of the university as well as the general public are invited to attend.

The event is going to be held in German.



more information on the TUM website

TUM Sustainability Day

On June 12, the TUM Sustainability Day took place in the MW building. Over the course of the day, around 4,700 participants engaged with the topics of sustainability and climate protection in hundreds of workshops, discussions, lectures and other formats. After the opening by Vice President for Sustainable Transformation Prof Werner Lang and President Prof Hofmann, Prof Sarah Billington from Stanford University, our student senator Isabella Hennessen, and members of TUM's sustainability committees discussed the sustainable transformation of our university.

Among the exhibitors were many student initiatives – such as the student environmental department, the bicycle workshop ReparatTUM and Plant a Seed, as well as chairs, research groups, NGOs and companies. Nico Rosberg, who has been campaigning for climate protection since

the end of his Formula 1 career, also gave a well-attended talk.

Silent but nonetheless clear criticism came from members of the Last Generation, who disrupted a BMW presentation on sustainable production chains. They wanted to make it clear that even the greenest production chain is not sustainable if the product is a car. The general automotive focus of the university and the Garching campus was also criticised by many visitors.

Even though a lot has been happening recently in terms of sustainability at TUM, there is still room for improvement and many old structures still need to be scrutinised and rethought.

We as FSMB took part with a booth about the participatory work of our student council as well as our blood donation events and organised a quiz on the connection between food and the climate crisis. We also did a small survey on sustainability in teaching.



Image: Luis' Bilder Ticker

University Elections

On July 9, the TUM University Elections will take place. This is your chance to show support for student participation in university processes. If you have any questions on the process, make sure to check our Election Special in this edition of Reisswolf.

If you have any ideas or wishes that the candidates should promote, feel free to come to the student union office (Fachschaft Maschinenbau) and talk to us. 🌟



WHAT MAKES A STUDENT COUNCIL SUSTAINABLE?





UNIVERSITY ELECTION 2024

JULY 9

•

MW BUILDING

HOW TO VOTE

All students of TUM can vote. This year, you elect two different committees:

Student Representatives: School of Engineering and Design

The 60 elected student representatives decide on university policy issues at School level and in the 5 student councils of our School. You have four votes. You can either

- ◆ distribute your four votes among the candidates manually, with up to 3 votes for one candidate.
- ◆ Or – if several lists (“parties”) are up for election – you also have the option of voting for one of the lists. In this case, the four votes are distributed between the first four candidates of the list.

The 60 candidates with the most votes will ultimately form your student representation at School level for the 2024/25 term of office. The top four candidates will also have the right to vote in the School Council (see the following pages) and represent your interests there.

Student senators: TUM-wide

The two elected senators represent the entire student body at university level in the Senate, the highest body at TUM (see the following pages). You have two votes. You can either

- ◆ give your two votes to individual candidates. It is possible to give both votes to the same candidate.
- ◆ Or – if several lists are up for election – simply vote for one of the lists. In this case, your votes will again be distributed among the two first-placed candidates.

WHEN AND WHERE TO VOTE

All students at the School of Engineering and Design in Garching: Tuesday, July 9, 9:00 to 17:00, Court 0 (MW building)

If you don't have time on July 9 or are not on campus, you can apply for **voting by mail** via TUM-online until June 25!

YOUR VOTE COUNTS!

But what are university elections?

Democracies have elections - so far so clear. But you can not only cast your vote for the state parliament, the Bundestag or the European Parliament, democratic principles are also practised at the university. In the university elections, university lecturers, academic staff and doctoral students, academic support staff and, of course, you, the students, elect your respective representatives.

In particular, you elect students to represent you to the university management, professors and staff, but also to other student councils.

Why vote?

You are probably wondering why you should bother to go and vote and find out about the election. The answer is simple: it's about what ideas we want to implement for the future of our university, what should happen with our student grants or how our degree programmes should develop.

And the more of us who vote, the more support our representatives enjoy and the better they can realise the interests of the students. A high student voter turnout therefore leads

to more student co-determination at our school and university - and that benefits you directly!

WHAT TO VOTE FOR

You can find an overview of the committees to be elected and their tasks on the following pages.

ANY QUESTIONS?

If you have any suggestions or questions for your current student representatives, you can contact them at bhg@fsmb-tum.de (Mechanical Engineering) or bhg-ed@fs.tum.de (School of Engineering and Design). Of course, you can always drop by our student council office or join our weekly student council meeting (Monday, 17:30, MW 2150) - you can also find the minutes of the student council meeting on our website www.fsmb.de.

TL;DR	
School Council	4 individual votes or 1 list
Senate	2 individual votes or 1 list



THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

VOTING RIGHTS

PROFESSORS	12
RESEARCH ASSOCIATES	4
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMBERS	2
REPRESENTATIVE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE	1
STUDENTS	4

The School Council (SC) is the highest body at our school. As you have already read on the previous pages, we students are represented here by four people. For the older ones among you: The SC has replaced the Faculty Council of the former Faculty of Mechanical Engineering.

WHAT HAS CHANGED, APART FROM THE NAME?

The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and several other faculties have been merged into the School of Engineering and Design (SoED). While only around 3,500 people study one of the Mechanical Engineering degree programmes, there are over 12,000 in the SoED, so the School Council not only includes MW students and professors, but also civil engineers, architects, aerospace engineers, etc.

DOCTORATES

Every doctorate at our School is approved by the School Council. It is checked for formal correctness, and the professorial examiners are selected. Possible suspicions of plagiarism are also checked in the SC.

STUDY REGULATIONS

The SC decides on new or amended examination regulations. By participating in the revision process in advance, we can advocate for improvements in teaching and ensure relevance of our courses.

In the last term, all MW degrees have been revised, and now it's important to **evaluate the implementation of the changes in the quality circles and to support the launch of our new Bachelor's degree** in the winter semester.

TASKS OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL

APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSORS

In orientation committees, the requirements and expectations for a new professorship are defined.

Then, for the actual – new or replacing – appointment, the SC invokes appointment committees in which **we as students have two representatives with a full say and one vote**. The appointment committees are extremely interesting for us. We see it as our task to ensure that all applicants are not only good researchers but also outstanding lecturers.

AND MUCH MORE...

The School Council is a place to receive and pass on important information. **The student representatives on the SC are often the first point of contact when it comes to study matters.**



THE SENATE

VOTING RIGHTS

PROFESSORS	6
RESEARCH ASSOCIATES	1
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MEMBERS	1
REPRESENTATIVE FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE	1
STUDENTS	2
DOCTORAL REPRESENTATION (ADVISORY VOTE)	1

The Senate is the highest body of TUM. Among other things, it decides on

- ◆ legislation to be issued by the university
- ◆ proposals for the **establishment, modification and cancellation of degree programmes**
- ◆ applications for the establishment of **special research areas**

It also determines research priorities and comments on proposals for professorial appointments

The members of the Senate, together with 10 external people from science, business and politics, form the **University Council** ("Universitätsrat"), the central supervisory body of TUM. Among other things, it decides on the university's **constitution and development plan** and **elects the president**.

THE „FACHSCHAFT“ – THE STUDENT REPRESENTATION

The 60 people with the most votes in the election for the School Council become part of your student representation. They deal with the day-to-day business, delegate people to the quality assurance of the various degree programmes and the commissions that decide on the distribution of study grants, elect the various offices of the student councils and delegate representatives to the student council. The Student Council is a TUM-wide student body with representatives from all student councils, which deals with university policy issues at TUM level, but also with the organisation of various events and many other exciting topics. If you are interested in becoming active yourself or learning more about student council work, you can of course always contact one of our school student councils, the doors are literally almost always open.

COMPETING LISTS

Liste eurer Fachschaften (LitFaS)

The List of Your Student Councils consists of committed student representatives who represent all the different areas of study at our school. The list is not affiliated with any political party and does not pursue any political agenda. Its sole aim is to represent you, as well as possible in the individual student councils, at school level and, of course, especially in the School Council. As active student representatives, we bring a lot of everyday experience with us: We talk to professors and the administration in semester meetings and Quality Circles, we have gained expertise in the distribution of student grants, we organise parties and get-togethers.

A major topic for the next term of office will be the introduction of tuition fees for international

students. We are already actively campaigning for as much say and transparency as possible in the distribution of these fees. In particular, of course, we hope to improve teaching and study conditions. This is particularly relevant because the funding situation for study grants remains very tight, which mainly affects the provision of tutorials and university internships.

With the founding of the School, we student representatives have also had to adapt: The list of your student councils consists of student representatives from the 5 different sub-subject councils of the new School of Engineering and Design student council (FSV ED): We are made up of the BGU, LRG, Architecture, FSMB and MSE student councils. We are increasingly starting to network at School level, get to know each other and implement joint projects, such as the new School-wide International Office. Our 4 top candidates for the



coming term of office are Franka Mayer (FSMB), Catharina Siemon (Architecture), Marius Priemer (LRG) and Christoph Geest (BGU). Leo Duck as the top candidate of the MSE is running as No. 5 on the list for a guest seat on the School Council.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the trust you have placed in the LitFaS in recent years and hope that you will renew it again this year!



CHRISTOPH GEEST

Hello, I'm Christoph Geest, I'm 21 years old and in the 4th semester of the B.Sc. in Civil Engineering at the TU Munich.

I've been representing my student union in the School Council for a year now and am slowly familiarising myself with all the structures, abbreviations and procedures that you must understand at the TU Munich before you can really implement anything.

Since the tuition fees for students from non-EU countries and their investment in the university are such a hot topic at the moment, I could hardly have started familiarising myself with it any later. Together with my fellow candidates, I would like to ensure that tuition fees are invested sensibly in teaching and that this remains the case for future generations of students.

I look forward to every single one of your votes in the university elections on 9 July, because the higher the turnout, the louder we can demand what we deserve in all committees: teaching that is as excellent as our university aspires to be.

MARIUS PRIEMER

I'm Marius, 21 years old and I'm now in my sixth semester of the B.Sc. Aerospace programme.

In the year 22/23, I was already a member of the ED School Council as a student representative. I also coordinated the student representation in various other committees as a university policy officer in the LRG student union. This year, I had to resign from my positions due to a longer stay abroad and would be delighted to have your trust again next year. I am committed to ensuring that we as a student body are heard and informed in all matters that affect us as students.



FRANKA MAYER

Hello :) My name is Franka Mayer, I'm 19 years old and I'm currently studying Mechanical Engineering (B.Sc.) in my second semester. Since my first semester, I've been active in the student council's university politics team and was part of the quality circle for the Bachelor programme. I am also the semester spokesperson for the current 2nd semester and help to solve acute student problems.

For the coming semester, as an elected student representative and candidate for the School Council, I would like to raise this work to School level in order to represent the interests and concerns of students even more effectively.

I would like to use my commitment to further improve the quality of teaching and promote communication between students and professors.





CATHARINA SIEMON

Hi there! I'm Cathi, 21 years old and I'm studying B.A. Architecture at TUM in the 6th semester. The student council has been with me pretty much my whole time as a student, through topics such as appointment committees, department meetings, study grant committees, ... I have a lot of experience in university politics. By planning and organizing various events, I am also familiar with student leisure activities. So be aware, students in the university context have much more potential to exploit and opportunities to improve the student environment than they may realize.



Ring Christlich-Demokratischer Studenten (RCDS)

Dear fellow students,

on 09.07.2024 the university elections will take place again. We as RCDS - Ring Christlich-Demokratischer Studenten an der TUM - are running again with a list for the Senate and for various faculty councils. We are a liberal and value-oriented, politically independent university group. As RCDS TUM e.V., we are well networked both statewide and nationwide.

Our candidates from various faculties advocate a pragmatic university policy to improve study conditions with a focus on the following topics.

Campus Garching:

One of our main goals is to expand the Garching campus into a fully-fledged campus with halls of residence. This could be achieved through rapid modular construction. We also want sufficient free parking spaces to be retained and further low-cost catering facilities to be created.

Study conditions:

To improve study conditions, we are calling for seminar rooms to be opened up as study rooms during the exam period, snack and coffee vending machines, water dispensers and longer canteen opening hours as well as outdoor areas. Our university library should also provide access to more subject-relevant papers.

We also want to work towards strengthening student co-determination through a student parliament.

You can still apply for a postal vote until 25.06.2024 and vote conveniently and free of charge from home. We ask for your vote for the RCDS!

You can find more information and our basic program on our homepage rcds-tum.de and our social media @rcds.tum! If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact us!



Here are your candidates for the Faculty Council at the School of Engineering and Design:

Hello!

My name is Tobias Hoppermann, I'm 25 years old and I'm studying Automotive Engineering in my 3rd semester.

I was already involved in university politics during my Bachelor's degree at KIT in Karlsruhe and was able to gain valuable experience there for 2.5 years as an elected representative in the student parliament.

I was also a member of the Senate Commission for Studies and Teaching, which is responsible for the accreditation of degree programs.

My experiences so far have encouraged me to stand up for strong student representation at TUM and I am therefore always ready to listen to your concerns.

I would like to continue to campaign for better study conditions, transparent decisions and a strong voice for our student body.

I am standing in the university elections because I represent a pragmatic and value-oriented university policy that focuses on continuity, quality and responsible innovation.

Kind regards

Tobias



Hello everyone!

I'm Lucas Romier, 24, and I'm studying Mechatronics and Robotics in my 3rd Master's semester.

In addition to my studies, I have been running a software company for 3 years, which has allowed me to gain an incredible amount of personal and professional experience.

I am also involved in IAESTE TUM and coordinate the internship processes for our interns.

Of course, I am also politically involved in the RCDS TUM, where I am a deputy board member.

I'm running for election to the university because I'm always interested in and committed to political discussions within the framework of a cultivated culture of debate. I am convinced that a political exchange at eye level, with respect for each other, is a basic framework of our democracy and society, and I want to work for this here at TUM.

With best regards

Lucas



ILA SNEAK PEAK

Air Power is Peace Power

**Bildnachweise: Leonie Castle,
Emma Steinmann, Marcus Dürr**

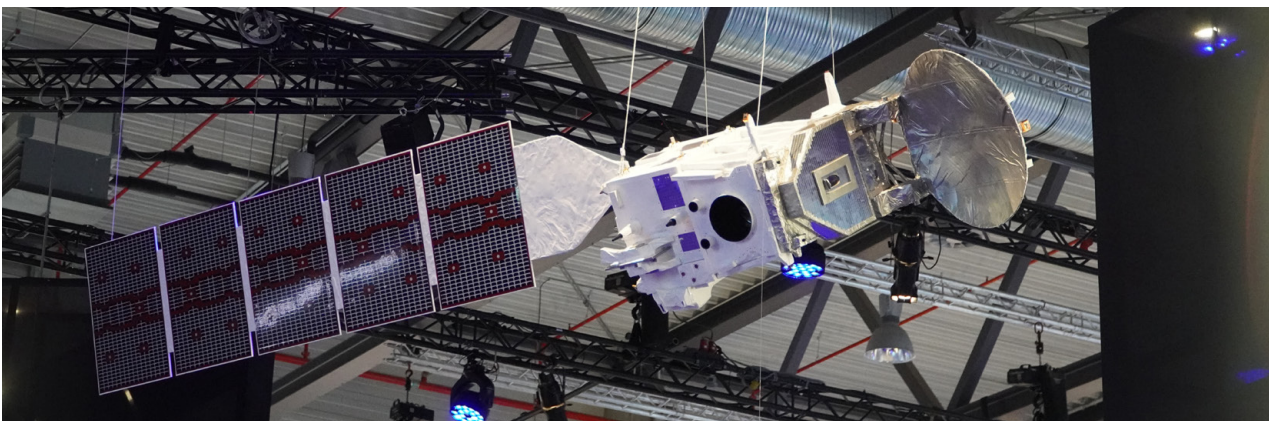
**AUFGUND DES KNAPP TERMINIERTEN
REDAKTIONSSCHLUSSES FOLGT EIN AUS-
FÜHRLICHER ARTIKEL IN DER NÄCHSTEN
AUSGABE.**



Airbus BelugaST



Ausgestellte Satelliten-Modelle in verschiedenen Größenkategorien



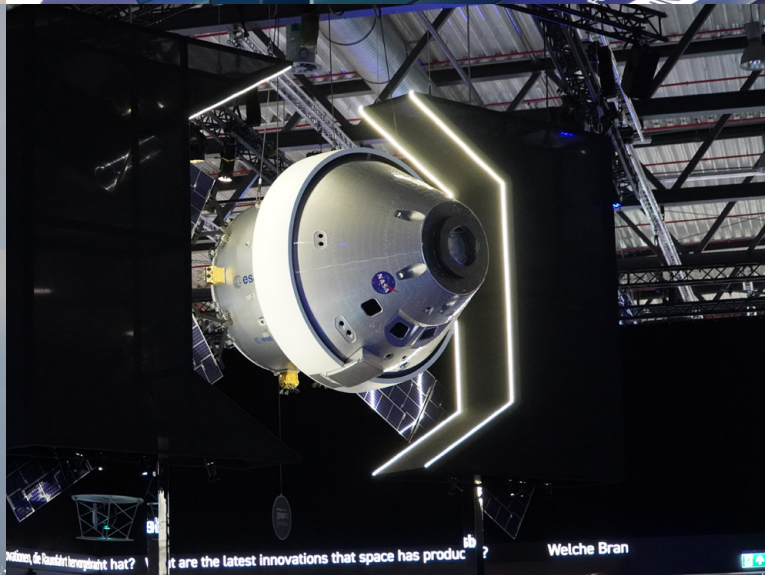
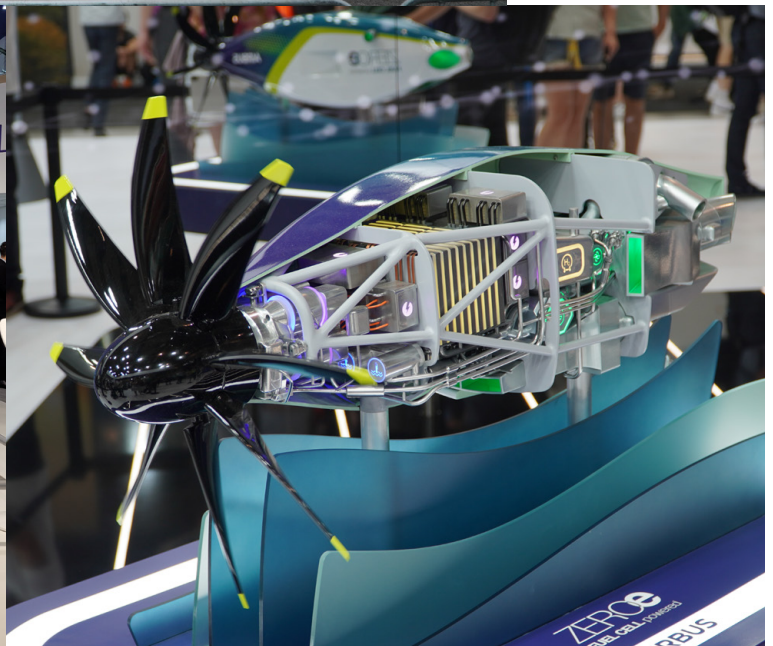


Messen und Exkursionen



Von oben nach unten, von links nach rechts:

- Cessna 208 B Grand Caravan, Forschungsflugzeug des Deutschen Zentrums für Luft- und Raumfahrt
- Rolls-Royce UltraFan
- Airbus ZEROe Brennstoffzellen-Turboprop
- Sea King Mk-41 (hinten) und Airbus H145M LUH (vorne), Search and Rescue Demonstration
- Orion-Kapsel der NASA und ESA





Von oben nach unten:

- Mehrzweckhubschrauber Sea King Mk41 der Marineflieger
- PA-200 Tornado der Luftwaffe
- Lockheed C-130 Hercules der US Air Force





Von oben nach unten:

- Rolls-Royce BR 710A2-20-Triebwerk, Bombardier Global 6000 der Flugbereitschaft (FIBschftBMVg)
- Eurofighter Typhoon der Luftwaffe
- Europrop TP400-D6 Triebwerk, Airbus A400M der Luftwaffe





Flying Display:
Airbus A400M



Flying Display:
Luftbetankung, Airbus
A330 MRTT, Tornado,
Eurofighter





Von oben nach unten:

- Flugabwehrsystem Diehl Defence IRIS-T SLM-Starters
- Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II Mockup
- Luftbetankungspods mit Fangtrichter, Lockheed Martin KC-130J Super Hercules der deutsch-französische Lufttransportstaffel
- Flugabwehrsystem Rheinmetall Skyranger 30





Von oben nach unten:

- Cockpit des NH90-Mehrweckhubschrauber der Marineflieger
- Boeing KC-46 Pegasus Tankflugzeug der US Air Force
- Boeing C-17 Globemaster III Transportflugzeug der US Air Force





IKOM: Engagement mit Freude und Freunden für die Zukunft

Seit über 35 Jahren sind wir eine studentische Gruppe an der TUM, die mit unserem ehrenamtlichen Engagement neben dem Studium Kommilitonen eine Plattform für einen einfacheren Einstieg ins Berufsleben bietet. Egal ob man auf der Suche nach einer Werkstudent-, Praktikums-, Abschlussarbeits-, oder Vollzeitstelle ist, bei unseren uns wird man fündig. Ganz nach unserem Motto – Wir knüpfen Kontakte. Persönlich. – finden Studierende aller Fachrichtungen bei uns verschiedene Möglichkeiten, um mit diversen Vertretern in Kontakt zu treten.



Mit Herzblut und Leidenschaft dabei!

Mit über 100 Studierenden aller Fachrichtungen der TUM stellen wir übers Jahr zahlreiche Veranstaltungen auf die Beine und gewinnen dabei prägende Erfahrungen, persönliche Weiterentwicklung und bleibende Freundschaften.

Als IKOM-Mitglied kann man sich in verschiedenen Ressorts engagieren und

Aufgaben wie Kundenakquise und Design übernehmen. Man lernt das A&O der Projektarbeit, denn mit unserer langjährigen Erfahrung und Mitgliedern schaffen wir eine professionelle Umgebung nahe der Arbeitswelt und eine wertvolle Grundlage für neue Ideen.

Auch auf persönlicher Ebene lernt man viel durch das Engagement bei der IKOM. Der eigene Horizont wird durch die Einarbeitung in neue Bereiche und durch „learning-by-doing“ enorm erweitert.



Die Zeit bei der IKOM bedeutet jedoch nicht nur Arbeit, sondern auch eine Menge Spaß. Neben einer schönen Ergänzung zum Studium in der man neue Freundschaften schließen kann, sind auch unsere IKOM-Teamevents, bei denen man wie eine Familie zusammenwächst, nicht zu vergessen.

Lerne Kommunikation, Design, Organisation, Zeitmanagement und mehr!

Interessiert? Komm ins Team!
www.ikom-tum.de



Das Karriereforum an der TUM

Auf zum Gipfel der Möglichkeiten!

TUM Campus Garching

24. - 27. Juni 2024

09:30-16:30 Uhr

- 324 Firmen**
- 4 Tage**
- ∞ Möglichkeiten**

Komm auch zur:
IKOM Start-Up
 am 26. Juni
 direkt nebenan!



Komm zur IKOM 2024 und triff deine Traumunternehmen - direkt in deiner Uni!



Scan mich und finde alle Unternehmen der IKOM 2024!

Du willst MEHR?

- Ganz viel Spaß
- Spannende Einblicke hinter die Kullissen
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- IKOM Rucksack ohne Anstehen

Jetzt Helfer werden:



POWDER BED FUSION REDEFINING MANUFACTURING HORIZONS

A series of beyond 3D printing



Kaavya Ramachandran

TUM.Additive

An Interview with David Wenzler from Institute of Machine Tools and Industrial Management (iwmb).

Can you elucidate the operational intricacies of the powder bed fusion technology?

David Wenzler: Powder bed fusion of metals using a laser beam (PBF-LB/M) harnesses the transformative potential of metallic powders to reshape manufacturing frameworks. Metallic powder, as the feedstock material employed in this process, is delicately spread over a build plate using a recoating or coating system. A steel plate, typically around 40 millimeters in height, acts as the build plate. In our setup, a conveying belt dispenses the powder from the top, then a knife-like blade levels the powder layer precisely. This ensures a smooth, uniform surface for the process. The layer height typically ranges between 20 to 80 μm , with metallic powders featuring a fine particle size distribution, usually around 40 to 50 μm . Now, let's talk lasers. A scanning device equipped with mirrors directs the laser beam to selectively melt areas of the powder bed, layer by layer. This ensures an optimal bonding between layers. After each layer is scanned, the build plate descends by one layer height, usually around 40 μm , and a new layer of powder is coated. This iterative process continues until the



desired object is fully formed within the chamber. Once completed, the excess powder is removed, revealing the finished product. After cutting it off the build plate the component is ready for use or further processing steps. Often post-processing such as support structure removal, surface finishing, or heat treatment is needed.

What are the essential safety precautions during this manufacturing method?

To ensure safety when using this process, it's crucial to recognize the hazards associated with the powder and the laser used. Working in an enclosed environment is imperative to contain the powder. At the iwmb, there is a separate lab with a sealed and controlled environment. Regular cleaning procedures are implemented to prevent the powder from dispersing throughout the workspace. To protect the user from the laser beam, an enclosure is part of the machine.

What materials are typically used in additive manufacturing?

The most commonly used metals in additive manufacturing include Titanium alloy Ti6Al4V,



Figure 1. Truss node made of AlSi10Mg using PBF-LB/M



Aluminum alloy AlSi10Mg, 316L stainless steel, and Inconel 718. Recently, new powders such as Scalmalloy have gained traction in the field. In the past, even gold was used.

Can you provide examples of parts or components manufactured using this method that are commonly encountered in everyday life?

Absolutely! Examples of components crafted through this innovative technology, frequently seen in daily life, encompass fuel nozzle injectors by GE Aviation, baroscopic eye examination devices, window guide rails manufactured by BMW for the i8 Roadster, and optimized pistons developed by Porsche.



Do you know? You can check the interesting projects @ Startseite - Institut für Werkzeugmaschinen und Betriebswissenschaften (tum.de)

What research projects are happening at the Institute of Machine Tools and Industrial Management (iwb)?

The KREATIVE project combines various additive manufacturing technologies to optimize production and resource efficiency by utilizing different processes for producing components with intricate details and larger sections. Within the Collaborative Research Center TRR 277 (Additive Manufacturing in Construction), there is also research about combining two manufacturing methods: drawn-arc stud welding with Wire and Arc Additive Manufacturing (WAAM), resulting in stud

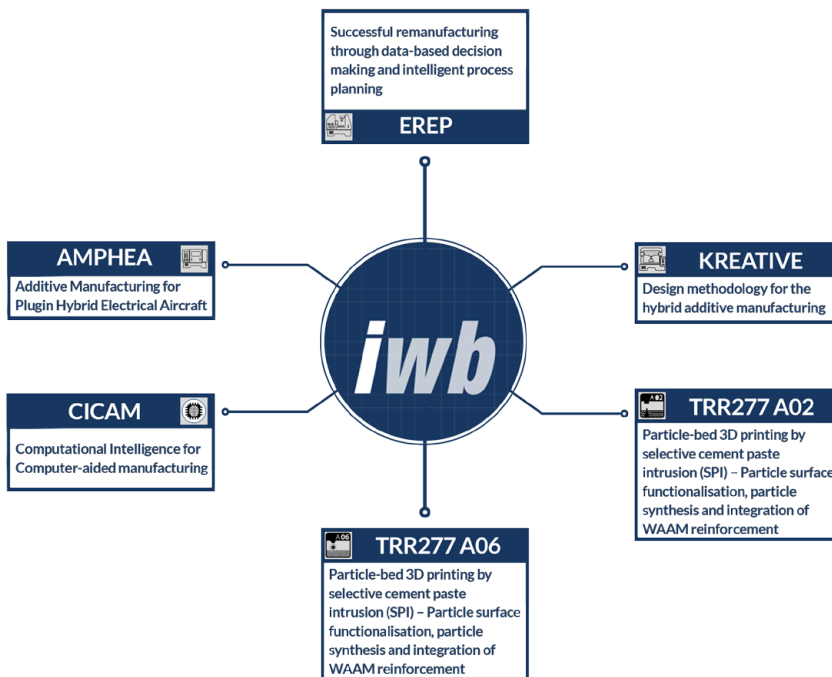


Figure 2 Overview of projects at iw b; more can be found at the homepage

and wire arc additive manufacturing (SWAAM). This increases the production rate of geometrically complex large-scale lattice structures.

Another focus of the iw b within the Collaborative Research Center lies on exploring and evaluating the factors influencing the manufacturing

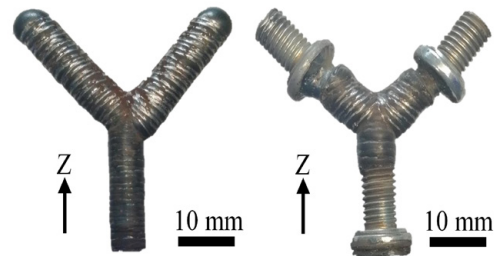


Figure 3: A result of the research within the framework of the TRR277 a) structure produced with the WAAM process, b) structure produced with the hybrid SWAAM process

of safe and durable structural steel elements by PBF-LB/M. The relationships between process parameters, the cooling rate, the post-treatment and geometric aspects with the static and cyclic mechanical properties of PBF-LB/M-manufactured steel components are determined. Based on these findings, design recommendations were derived to manufacture steel components with reproducible and defined mechanical properties.

Additionally, the now completed project Ascent AM aims to predict parts' thermal and mechanical behaviors, enabling proactive CAD geometry adjustments to mitigate post-production deformations. The range of research at iw b is quite broad.

What are the pros & cons of powder bed fusion to conventional manufacturing methods?

Powder bed fusion offers several advantages to conventional manufacturing methods. It provides a high accuracy and an intricate geometrical complexity, coupled with the ability to work with a diverse range of materials, including various steel alloys, aluminum alloys, and titanium alloys. Despite its slow build rate and size limitations compared to machining



for example, powder bed fusion allows for the reuse of powder and, therefore, reducing waste.

How is rough surface finishing handled in the manufacturing process?

To address the rough surface finishing, we employ various surface treatments tailored to the

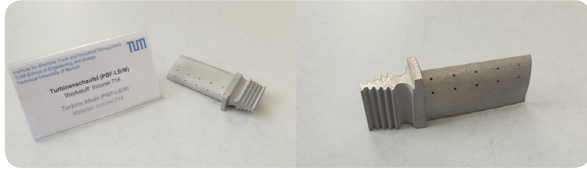


Figure 4: Turbine blade made of Inconel 718 using PBF-LB/M

specific needs of each part. Sandblasting is effective in removing excess sintered powder from the surface, offering a cost-effective and straightforward solution. Alternatively, vibratory grinding, involving a tumbler with grinding particles, ceramics, and liquid, smoothens the surface over hours or days. There is also this post-processing solution of 3D printed metal parts called Hirtisation®. It uses a combination of electrochemical pulse methods, hydrodynamic flow and particle assisted chemical removal with no mechanical processing steps involved. An acid treatment process is utilized for internal channels that vibratory grinding cannot reach.

Are there alternative methods akin to powder bed fusion, serving as parallel concepts, derivatives, or advancements in the field?

PBF-LB/M employs a laser beam as the energy source to melt the powder, while a parallel concept, powder bed fusion of metals using an electron beam melting (PBF-EB/M), utilizes an electron beam for the same purpose. In PBF-LB/M, a shielding gas atmosphere is required during the

laser welding, whereas PBF-EB/M necessitates a vacuum environment due to the absence of atoms in the atmosphere. These differences stem from the distinct melting sources and influence certain features of the machines.

At the iwB you even build your own device to dive deeper into the process?

Exactly! At our chair there is a specific setup, referred to as the Laser Beam Manufacturing Chamber, developed by my colleague during his PhD project. It operates similarly to PBF-LB/M machine but on a smaller scale. At the top, the laser deflection optics are positioned, allowing for precise control of the laser's path. The laser is not enclosed within a casing. For this reason, the machine is placed in a laser safety cell at the institute. The setup includes sensors to monitor the process, aiding in the validation of simulations and the testing of hypotheses. In a 2021 publication, we demonstrated the effectiveness of this setup by correlating sensor data with indicators such as spatter creation and changes in the melt pool intensity, identifying occurrences of defects during the process. This work showcases the potential of this method derived from powder bed fusion for advanced monitoring and analysis in additive manufacturing.

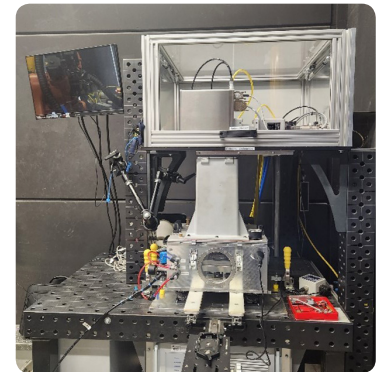


Figure 5: Laser Beam Manufacturing Chamber setup

„Our project reAM250 aims for a research system for PBF-LB/M, that is open-source and especially tailored for research on process monitoring and control. With active student involvement, it offers hands-on experience across hardware design, process development, and software creation. This interdisciplinary initiative allows students to explore mechanical engineering, electronics, software development, and automation. Through thesis work, students contribute to advancing knowledge and gain practical experience in real-world research settings. Join us for a dynamic research opportunity to make meaningful contributions and foster critical skills.“





YOUNG, UNPOLITICAL, GEN Z?

The Impact of Digital Platforms on the Political Engagement of Young Adults



Emma Jung

In recent years, the digital revolution has reshaped not just how we communicate but also how we engage with the world around us. For the younger generation, the shift from traditional media to digital platforms has dramatically altered their relationship with news and political participation. This transformation raises a critical question: Are young adults less political because of this shift or simply engaged in new, digital ways?

The Digital Pulse of a Generation

Generation Z, born between the mid-1990s and early 2010s, grew up in an environment saturated with technology. Their familiarity with smartphones, tablets, and social media is second nature, making digital platforms a primary source of information and interaction. Unlike previous generations, whose political awareness was primarily shaped by traditional media and face-to-face discussions, Gen Z has a vast array of information at their fingertips.

The 2023 Digital News Report from the Reuters Institute highlights a generational divide in news consumption. Older Germans still trust and value public broadcasters like ARD and ZDF, while younger generations are turning to social media and digital news platforms. This trend is driven by the widespread availability of smartphones and

improved internet connectivity, which make digital news more accessible than ever before. (Newman et al., 2023)

Social Media: A Double-Edged Sword

Social media platforms like Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok are more than just entertainment hubs; they are arenas of political discourse and activism. These platforms offer young people opportunities to engage with political content, join movements, and express their views. For instance, the Fridays for Future movement, which gained momentum globally, was significantly fueled by social media campaigns.

Young activists, including many from Germany, leveraged these platforms to organize protests, spread awareness, and gather support.

Gen Z, having grown up with social media, is more likely to get news from influencers and celebrities rather than traditional journalists (Newman et al., 2023). However, the influence of social media on political engagement is not solely positive. The echo chamber effect, where users are only exposed to information that aligns with their pre-existing beliefs, can increase polarization (Cinelli et al., 2021). Misinformation and fake news, prevalent on these platforms, further complicate this (Matthes, 2022). This digital noise can lead to confusion and apathy, deterring meaningful political participation.

Some experts argue that social media has opened the public sphere, making political participation more inclusive and diverse (Bennett, 2012). Platforms like Twitter and Instagram allow young people to engage with political content, join movements, and voice their opinions. This democratization of the public sphere can lead to more dynamic political engagement among young adults.





To summarize, these platforms can democratize information, giving voice to diverse perspectives, but they can also reinforce existing beliefs and spread misinformation.

Despite these challenges, the digital era offers new opportunities for political engagement. Social media campaigns, online petitions, and digital activism provide young people with tools to participate in political processes. The accessibility of diverse information sources can

enhance their political awareness and motivate them to participate in political discussions and activities.

Naturally, the motivations behind young adults' engagement with digital news are complex. While some are driven by a desire to stay informed and participate in political processes, others might prioritize entertainment or social interaction. Digital platforms serve multiple purposes for young users, blending news consumption with social and recreational activities (Newman et al., 2023).

The Need for Digital Literacy

As digital platforms continue to shape the political landscape, there is a growing need for

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enhanced digital literacy among young adults. According to a Stanford History Education Group (SHEG) report, many students across socioeconomic levels have difficulty distinguishing between credible and non-credible online sources (Wineburg et al., 2016). The report emphasizes the need for educational initiatives to teach students how to evaluate the credibility of digital information. The Pew Research Center's report on „Teens, Social Media & Technology“ (Anderson, 2018) revealed that a significant portion of teens encounter online harassment, hate speech, and misinformation on social media platforms, underscoring the importance of equipping young adults with the skills to engage constructively in online discussions and recognize harmful content. By developing digital literacy skills, young adults can better understand how to critically evaluate information, recognize bias, and engage constructively in online discussions, enabling them to confidently participate in the political process and make informed decisions.

However, is Gen Z truly less political than former generations?

In short, it might even be more political. As evident in the 2022 midterm election in the United States, Gen Z demonstrated remarkable political engagement, outpacing previous generations in their first national election. Census data reveals that Gen Z's voter turnout among 18-24-year-olds was higher than that of Millennials and Gen Xers when they comprised the same age group. Specifically, 28.4% of Gen Z youth cast their ballots, a significant increase compared to the 23% turnout for Millennials in 2006 and the 23.5% for Gen Xers in 1990. (Medina, 2023)

These numbers suggest that political participation might be even higher among Gen Z. However, drawing definitive conclusions about the underlying reasons requires rigorous empirical research. While digital media may have played a role, attributing Gen Z's activism solely to these factors oversimplifies the complex interplay of societal, cultural, and personal influences. As Gen Z grows and becomes more politically active, further research and analysis will be needed to fully understand the complexity driving their engagement.

In conclusion, the digital transformation of news consumption has significant implications for the political engagement of young adults in Germany. While digital platforms present challenges such as echo chambers and misinformation, they also offer new avenues for participation and democratization. Understanding how Gen Z navigates this is crucial for fostering informed and active democratic participation. As digital media continues to evolve, it will be necessary for stakeholders to address these challenges and harness the potential of digital platforms to support an engaged and informed young electorate.



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